

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.
JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-DAY.

- BLEEKER STREET UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.—REV. DAY K. LEE. Morning and evening.
- CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH.—Evening.
- CHAPEL OF THE HOLY APOSTLES, Rutgers College.—Morning and afternoon.
- CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR.—REV. J. M. FULLMAN. Morning and afternoon.
- CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION.—REV. E. O. FLAGG. Morning and afternoon.
- CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION.—Morning and afternoon.
- CHURCH OF THE STRANGERS.—REV. DR. DREWS. Morning and evening.
- CANAL STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—REV. DAVID MITCHELL. Morning and evening.
- DODWORTH HALL.—SPIRITUALISTS. REV. WILLIAM FISKE. Morning and evening.
- EVERETT ROOMS.—SPIRITUALISTS. MRS. SARAH A. BYRNE. Morning and evening.
- FIFTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.—REV. MATTHEW HALE SMITH. Evening.
- FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—REV. JOHN THOMPSON. Afternoon.
- FRENCH CHURCH on West Twenty-second street.—CONVINATION BY MISS PORTER.
- MORAVIAN P. E. CONGREGATION.—REV. A. A. BIRNEY. Morning.
- MUSIC HALL.—"POSITIVE POLITY." HENRY EDWARDS. Morning and evening.
- NEW JERUSALEM HOUSE OF WORSHIP.—"SWEDENBORG AS A POET." REV. CHANNING GILLES. Evening.
- ST. ANN'S FREE CHURCH.—SERVICE FOR DEAF MUTES. Afternoon.
- TRINITY CHAPEL.—CHORAL SERVICE. Evening.
- UPPER CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION.—Morning and evening.
- UNIVERSITY, Washington square.—BISHOP SNOW. Afternoon.
- WELSH BAPTIST CHURCH.—REV. FRED. EVANS. Afternoon.
- 12TH STREET M. E. CHURCH.—REV. STEPHEN H. TYNG. Afternoon.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Sunday, April 5, 1868.

THE NEWS.

IMPEACHMENT.

There was again a small attendance of spectators, Senators and Representatives at the opening of the High Court of Impeachment yesterday. Previous to the opening of the Senate in legislative session discussed the resolution to abolish the ticket system, but the time for opening the court arrived before it was disposed of. Outside the Senate chamber crowds usually gather, unable to obtain admission, while half the seats inside are unoccupied.

L. L. Wallbridge and J. A. Dear, shorthand reporters, were examined as to the speeches delivered by the President in St. Louis during his swing around the circle. The transcripts of the speeches as produced in court, containing expressions relative to Judas Iscariot and hanging Thad Stevens and Wendell Phillips, were pronounced correct. Mr. R. S. Chew, chief clerk of the State Department, was examined in reference to the change in the form of commissions since the passage of the Tenure of Office bill. The case of John Adams and Pickering was cited, and the Senate journal of that occasion was offered in evidence. Certain other documents were read, and Mr. Butler announced that the testimony for the prosecution was closed.

A motion was then made to adjourn the High Court until Thursday, which was carried by a vote of 27 to 10.

The Senate adjourned soon after.

On the return of the House from the Senate chamber a resolution was offered that an adjournment take place until Wednesday. Discussion on the proposition disclosed the fact that there was not a quorum of members present in Washington, and it was adopted.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Senate was not in session yesterday.

In the Assembly bills to increase the pay of the Metropolitan Fire Department; for the improvement of lands near Wallabout bay; relative to emigrants and passengers in New York; to declare eight hours a legal day's work, and to suppress obscene literature, were reported. Bills were introduced for the better protection of tenants in New York; for the protection of persons travelling in Fourth avenue; authorizing the New York Board of Education to establish a nautical school; and for a line of coaches in and through Central Park. A resolution to investigate the affairs of the New York Juvenile Guardian Society was adopted. The new bill amending the Metropolitan Excise Law was made a special order for Monday. The Cross Town Railroad bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole. A motion to adjourn sine die on the 10th instant was laid on the table.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Radical reports received in St. Louis state that the Arkansas election has been carried for the republicans by thirty thousand majority. A conservative report has it that the result of the election is still doubtful, the returns being unpublished and in Governor Gillen's custody. The Legislature assembled with some difficulty, the Superintendent of Public Buildings having refused to give up the keys of the Capitol and it becoming necessary to break open the doors at night. The constitutional amendment was ratified by the Lower House on Friday, but the Senate refused to concur because the result of the election had not been fully promulgated.

The Ogallala and Cheyenne Indians, it is reported, have refused to attend the meeting of the Peace Commissioners.

The Canadian Parliament has passed the bill respecting an extradition treaty with the United States.

Judge Irwin, the democratic candidate for Governor of Georgia, has been declared ineligible to the office by General Meade, and he has withdrawn in consequence.

The Artillery School of the United States Army, at Fortress Monroe, was formally opened with appropriate ceremonies on Tuesday. The officers of the garrison and numerous ladies and gentlemen were in attendance, the Post Band discoursed music for the occasion, the order establishing the school was read, and General Barry, the commandant at the Fortress, made a speech.

Special Agent Sloanmaker, of Galveston, Texas, has arrested one R. B. Stopp for complicity in the recent warehouse fire in that city. Later developments implicate merchants and others. Stopp gave bonds for his appearance in the sum of \$5,000.

A municipal election in St. Louis yesterday went democratic.

Denver City papers announce that Rynderson, a member of the New Mexico Legislature, who killed Chief Justice Sloss in that territory last fall, has been acquitted.

General Schofield has appointed Henry H. Wells, of Alexandria, late a general in the federal army, to be Governor of Virginia, in place of Pierpont, whose term expired in January last, and who has held over until this time for want of a successor.

The negro laborers at Midlothian coal pits, in Virginia, struck for high wages yesterday, and one of their number having disappeared after a fight with

a white man, they commenced a search for him, with terrible threats if he was injured. A military force has been ordered to the scene from Richmond, as a bloody riot is apprehended.

An alleged blackmailing operation is being investigated before the Brooklyn courts. A young married woman named Moore, who brings numerous witnesses to prove her good character and standing, is charged with attempting to extort \$100 from a Mrs. Howard, whose husband is a Wall street broker, by threats of revealing something discreditable. The testimony hinges in its most important points on the hieroglyphics of the HERALD personals and is very interesting. Mrs. Moore gave bail for her appearance.

The great Erie litigation came before Judge Barnard at Supreme Court Chambers yesterday on several distinct motions, but all the matters, with the exception of the contempt proceedings in the case of Jay Gould, were adjourned until Saturday next. In Mr. Gould's case interrogatories were served and the matter adjourned until Wednesday next, bail, meantime, being fixed at \$50,000.

The stock market was variable, but on the whole steady yesterday. Government securities were strong. Gold closed at 133 1/4.

Business in almost every department of trade in commercial circles yesterday was extremely quiet, but the markets were generally firm. Cotton was excited by the cable news from Liverpool, and prices advanced 1c. per lb., middling upland closing at 30c.

An active demand prevailed, chiefly from speculators. Coffee was in more demand and firm. On 'Change, flour was sparingly dealt in and heavy. Wheat was quiet, but firmly held. Corn opened steady, but closed 1c. lower; while oats closed 1/2c. Pork was in fair request and a trifle better. Beef, though quiet, ruled firm, while lamb was more sought after and higher. Freight was quiet, but firm. Naval stores were without activity, but steady in value. Petroleum—Crude was dull and heavy, while bonded was dull, but firm.

Disraeli's Defeat—Important Vote of the British Parliament.

At three o'clock yesterday morning the British House of Commons, amidst a scene of extraordinary excitement, and in the presence of the heir apparent to the throne and other members of the royal family, adopted Mr. Gladstone's resolutions for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish branch of the State Church, recording by the act the most important vote given by the legislature of England since the Restoration, not excepting even the votes pronounced in ratification of the Irish union, for the adoption of the Catholic Emancipation bill, the Reform bill of 1832, or the bill for the repeal of the Corn laws. After a short, animated and most incisive debate six hundred members attended and solemnly declared that the Protestant Church has failed in Ireland, and that Premier Disraeli does not enjoy the complete confidence of the nation. The Irish Church found few, if any, supporters; for, as will be seen by our cable reports of the debate, the tactics of the Ministers and their adherents were directed merely to the obtaining of a postponement of the issue until such time as a Royal Commission had reported on the condition of the establishment. On the other hand, its opponents went down to the House fortified with statistics, argument and written evidence to show that the establishment has been unfruitful as a missionary evangelism, is ungenial to the soil, disproportionate to the resources of the island, and a source of ill-will and discontent, if not a "badge of serfdom," to the inhabitants. Their deduction was that immediate action was demanded, and the House, by sixty majority, declared that the motion to postpone should be rejected, and that what the London Times of yesterday morning terms the "cancer of the empire—the Irish Church—shall be removed."

The sequence of this vote is the condemnation of the Disraeli Premiership, and in this is to be found its real significance and importance. The Irish Church was doomed in anticipation, but it was asserted and hoped by many that the aspiring Israelite could so manipulate the political parties, and so direct the course of the constitutional revolution now in progress in Great Britain, as to enable him to retain office for a considerable period. The country has informed both the Premier and his supporters of their mistake. The English people endorse the principle of progressive reform and governmental change to their fullest extent, but they at the same time wish that the process of complete popular enfranchisement should be conducted under a known leadership and by a healthful political combination of educated radicalism with the enlightened aristocracy of the colleges and the citizen industry, which constitutes the real strength of the kingdom. This organization could not be had under Disraeli. Persevering as a politician, persistent as a man, useful as a servant of the Tories, and free from the prejudices of class or family, Disraeli at the head of the Cabinet symbolized change and indicated revolution; but this was, after all, in the eyes of the people, the change, progress and revolution of an adventurer. This conviction was very fully expressed during the debate just terminated; for we see that in its progress the Premier was taunted as a "zigzag," a "mountebank politician," "insulting to the dignity of Parliament," and reminded of his personal assaults on "Peel" in words which show that the parliamentary prophecy of the deceased "Liberator" of Ireland, as he was called, that the "constitution of England will yet be crucified between some repentant minister and the descendant of the impudent thief," is not likely to be fulfilled, if the British people can prevent its realization.

Mr. Disraeli's defeat inaugurates a quasi ministerial crisis in England. His Cabinet is rendered powerless in the House of Commons and meets little favor from the Peers. By tacit agreement with the opposition he will complete the public estimates and submit the annual budget. The question arises, what course will the Premier adopt after the Easter recess? Resign, or dissolve Parliament? It is highly probable that he will be driven to resignation by some new tactic of the opposition during the renewed debate on the subject on which he has been defeated. Mr. Disraeli could scarcely gain by a dissolution of Parliament. Gladstone has outbid him, and the "wild choirs" with which the liberals hailed the result of the division indicate that Mr. Gladstone is the more acceptable leader towards future change. Without the support of Lord Stanley and the friends of Earl Derby, Mr. Disraeli would have only a weak support in the present Parliament. This would scarcely be reinforced by an election, in which all the interest of the extreme Tories and Russell Whigs would be brought to bear against him, really as a *novus homo*, in England and Scotland, while his heated assertions respecting the "plotting of

Papists and Ritualists" and "danger to the Crown," delivered just before the division yesterday, have secured his public excommunication and everlasting anathema in Ireland.

Mr. Gladstone may attain the object of his ambition, the Premiership of England, and we would not be surprised if Mr. John Bright, with some prominent Irish Catholics, were called to high office under him. In either event, with Gladstone or Disraeli, the cause of the people of England must gain and advance; while, if the London Times forecast published to-day is correct, Ireland will become a perfect political paradise, "the wrongs of ages be ended and right done amid the acclamation of the nation." If Cardinal Cullen has faith, hope and political charity to the extent of the London Times, so have we, and we sincerely hope that Mr. Gladstone, now that he has placed the "cup in the sack" of his brother Benjamin and taken him as a hostage for the good behavior of his party, may himself prove a very Joseph to the British people and their Queen.

Our New Religions.

Mr. Hepworth Dixon has given to the European world two interesting and able works as the result of his visit a year or two ago to the American Continent. His work, entitled "New America," startling as it was, has been eclipsed by his later work, "Spiritual Wives." This work, though not purely American, is valuable chiefly from the account which it gives of the development of religious ideas on this Continent, and particularly in the United States. Looking at the many and peculiar manifestations of religions thought to which even in this century the United States have given birth, it is difficult to resist the conviction that our freedom and independence of thought is, in a religious point of view, to be largely influential in moulding the sentiments of the future races of men. That mankind has religious instincts and tendencies is a proposition which does not admit of contradiction. That these instincts and tendencies have shaped themselves in strange, contradictory and sometimes ridiculous forms is as little to be denied. That we have had religions in large abundance is now a truism which one is almost ashamed to write; but how far we have advanced in these manifestations towards perfection, or whether the later manifestations have fallen short of the earlier, are questions to which different persons will return different answers. There are at this day many people who are very much in the condition in which St. Paul found the overmuch religious Athenians who had erected an altar to the unknown God. We are most of us Athenians. The altars are not wanting, but the groupings are everywhere visible in the Old World and in the New. We are all of us groping, and we are groping all the time. Where the groping is to end, who can tell?

The old, old question has been revived this last week by the anniversaries which have been held in this city and elsewhere throughout the Union in connection with Spiritualism. Since the Fox sisters first astonished the world from their headquarters at Rochester twenty years have rolled past. Twenty years is a fair test, considering the limits of a generation, of the value of an "ism." We say it, and say it honestly. It is not therefore a fact to be lightly esteemed that on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary they can, in the Empire City, exhibit the original priestesses, the Vestal Virgins of the order, gathered around them a magnificent assembly, and claim at the same time an unrepresented following of many millions. We have little doubt that this spiritualistic demonstration has been laughed at. This, however, is no affair of ours. We chronicle facts, and facts all the world over, time included, are stubborn things and command respect. The Spiritualists are peculiarly of American growth. Of whatever value they are, the United States are entitled to all the glory and all the praise. If the world is to be revolutionized by the Fox sisters and their followers, to the door of the United States, but particularly to the State of New York, the honor must be given. If this had been the only manifestation we should have made less account of it; but inasmuch as Mormonism, which already threatens to be the Mohammedanism of the future, originated among us here, we cannot withhold the praise which is justly due to this vigorously intellectual State—a State which promises to become the Palestine of the future. It is not to be denied that the State of New York has been particularly prolific of religious manifestations. We are not disposed to make too much of these manifestations. We are quite willing to forget the names of many of the "isms" to which the State has given birth. Some of them have only required to be known to be despised and condemned. It has not been so with Mormonism and Spiritualism. These two "isms" have stood serious and testing trials; but still they live and prosper. Why should they not live and continue to prosper and become to the world of the future all that the older "isms" have become to the world of the past? Why should not Joseph Smith and Brigham Young, Robert Dale Owen and the Fox sisters, take their place henceforward with the names of Moses, Brahma, Confucius, Buddha, the Vestal Virgins, or nuns, of their day, and the rest of them? Why is it really difficult to say.

One thing we can and do say, and it is this—that we make, perhaps, a little too much of our particular "isms." The "ism" of our friend is not, perhaps, our "ism," but notwithstanding our friendship our respective "isms" to us continue to be right. How many "isms" have come and gone in the world's history! Of the many systems of religion which have claimed the attention of mankind how few continue to be a living force! They have come; they have done their work, whatever it was, and gone their way; and of some of them we cannot say that the result has been a blessing. How few of all existing beliefs are older than Christianity! If we except Brahminism and Judaism there are none which influence to any large extent the feelings and fortunes of mankind. Most of the old systems have ceased to be of real, living, practical value. Old and effete are characteristics not unjustly applied to them. Even Christianity itself is revealing signs of weakness. Where is now the old religious energy? The religion of Jesus has become as stationary as the religion of Moses, of Brahma, of Buddha, of Mohammed. The Protestant Church, the Latin Church and the

Church, one and all, remain true to their original characters. Signs of change we have none. Signs of exhaustion, on the other hand, we have many. Is it too much to say that some of our latest "isms," some of our newest religions, of purely American growth, Spiritualism and Mormonism included, are to become the grand controlling systems of coming times? We are still in quest of higher truth. We still seek the "unknown." Why should not American thought have its distinctive and peculiar place in the world's great future?

The Great Impeachment Fizzle.

There never was such a failure. There never was such a stale, flat and unprofitable conclusion to anything that so thundered and threatened in the prologue. Impeachment is the old case of forty crows put into the pompous character of a great political process. Forty crows, as we are all aware, would hardly cover the number, even as stated by those most moderate in speech. Some said the flight darkened the heavens, and at the last it was barely possible to prove the presence of one solitary little blackbird. So the nation that was assured its liberties and peace were in danger from the countless and heinous crimes of the Executive finds, when it comes to evidence in court, that the prosecution cannot prove enough to send a juvenile delinquent to the House of Detention for two days. Six days have now been taken up by the prosecution, and what has been shown? On Monday we had the windy and grandiloquent opening of Butler. Since that it has been proven that the President "issued an order" for the removal of Stanton—not that he had removed him or had not the right to remove him or issue the order; the attempt has been made to prove that the President conspired with soldiers to oppose the laws, and this has resulted in clearly proving that he did not so conspire. And now the prosecution is proving what the President said in his public speeches, proposing to trench upon that most sacred right—absolute freedom in the expression of opinion. What is proved here that can authorize the removing a man from an office in which he was placed by the will of the people? And what is the whole result so far? Only that a grand occasion has been given for Butler to strut and fret and plume himself in the public eye. Only a chance for this vapor to show to the world that there is no sphere of human endeavor in which he is not equally incapable. He was a general a little while ago, and he made more noise in despatches and orders and proclamations than all the other generals in the country together. He was the most mighty of all the heroes. But the sum of his achievements in the field is included in the names of Big Bethel, Bermuda Hundred and Fort Fisher. He "saved his men" and his bacon; and he never was within ten miles of a battle that it did not prove a disaster. Peace came and, not shamed into obscurity by his failures, the mighty man returns to politics and law. He leads the great case of his party. He makes the same tremendous threats as ever, and as before he dwindles into pitiful insignificance when brought to a practical test. Fortunately, there was a way of pushing such leaders aside in war. Let us hope that the radicals may not for a while learn that wisdom.

The Tax Levy.

The Citizens' Association, through its venerable and restless spokesman, Peter Cooper, appeals to the Albany Legislature in behalf of the city and county tax levies, in order that they may be considered at once, read, studied and inwardly digested, instead of being hurried up for action in the last hours of the Legislature. The republican papers are equally exercised upon this subject. They are urging a speedy disposition of the appropriations, and are growing at the democratic Legislature for their dilatoriness in the matter. Now it happens that during eight years of republican legislation the tax levy was invariably held back to the close of the session, and was then so manipulated in abeyance for other purposes—perhaps to load the bill down with embarrassments. There is no greater source of corruption than this tax levy, and there is no other way of getting rid of its evil influence than by taking the matter out of the hands of the Legislature altogether and transferring it to the Board of Supervisors. We have control over that body in the management of our municipal affairs, but we have none at all over the convulsions of irresponsible country members who comprise the Legislature. If we do not elect honest men to the Board of Supervisors it is our own fault, and if we neglect to do so we shall soon learn the folly of entrusting the final adjustment of the tax levy to a reckless and dishonest body, and having the remedy in our hands we shall soon correct the evil.

THE CONNECTICUT ELECTION.—The State election in Connecticut closes off to-morrow. The result is doubtful. Greeley says that one vote may turn the scale. The State is very closely divided between the two parties, the republicans holding it in 1866 by some five hundred majority, and the democrats gaining it in 1867 on the largest vote ever polled by some nine hundred majority. The republicans, however, relieved of the dead weights of Barnum and his manager, and under the banner of General Grant for the Presidency, appear to be pretty confident of success. The impression, too, that there is soon to be a new division of the spoils at Washington, stimulates the office seeking radicals, and the Manufacturers' Relief bill, just passed by Congress, helps their ticket. If, therefore, the republicans fail to recover the State, the result will be a most important democratic triumph; while, on the other hand, if the radical ticket is elected by only a slender majority, the result will hardly amount to a victory of any consequence. The vote on each side will doubtless be heavier than that of last year and the result very close.

THE CITY POST OFFICE.—A report was presented in the House of Representatives on Friday as to the plans, cost and materials of the proposed Post Office to be erected in the City Hall Park. We have already given the main points in this report and commented thereupon. The plans presented to the committee are not regarded very favorably, either as to the cost of construction or the availability of the building. It is suggested that something like a million dollars can be saved by using

less iron than is provided for in the present plan. But the matter of economy is, after all, a secondary question compared with the idea that the building shall be suitable to the uses for which it is designed and that it shall be erected in proper time, because the necessity for a new Post Office is pressing. The old concern in Nassau street is entirely unfit for the purpose. A year has now passed since the ground in the park was purchased and nothing has yet been done, not even the adoption of a plan. Under these circumstances we may well ask, When will the new city Post Office be completed?

The Spring Fashions.

We heard a crusty old bachelor the other day complaining that the original serpent, in his memorable conversation with Mother Eve, did not give her some sound advice on the score of dress, when that article should become necessary, drawn from his own example. He casts his slough only once a year, and is content with a new dress every spring; but the daughters of the lady in question want a new toilet every time they get their husbands or parents in good humor. Spring is, however, the season of fashion revolutions, and generally gives the tone to the styles of the entire year. Hence the awful responsibility felt by the *modistes* before opening day, when they meet in solemn conclave and invoke the deity of fashion to inspire them. They sit as a high court of impeachment on the styles of the preceding year, and not all the remonstrances of their fair constituents have any effect on them when they take it into their little heads to remove an obnoxious bonnet, an arbitrary dress or a cloak which has been guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors. There have been some changes in the toilet administration this spring, and bonnets—those marvels of the milliner's art—have shrunk to such a degree that the Queen of Liliput would have some trouble in trying one on her head. Yet the *modistes* have endeavored to effect a compromise by making the trimming of one of those "fearfully and wonderfully made" articles as extensive as possible. The back of the head and the neck are now sheltered by a lace veil instead of the time-honored cape, and a coronet bridges the bump of benevolence in front of the bonnet. The fanchon may be considered the General Grant of bonnets in point of popularity, and poor Marie Antoinette, whose head sat so uneasily on her shoulders during the dark days of the *sans culottes*, until it fell at last a victim to their fury, has now a namesake nestling amid the curls of our most *distinguées* belles. In the matter of cloaks the *modistes* deserve a unanimous vote of thanks for the handsome styles they have brought out this spring. Last year a lady carried on her back a bushel load of jet and beads, which had a disagreeable habit of fastening themselves in everything, and the cloaks looked for all the world like propositions in Euclid worked out in silk and passementerie. Now the ladies have charming little sashes, basques and palotots, with surplice or mantilla fronts, lapels like those on a gentleman's frockcoat, trimming of silk, satin and lace, and a coquettish sash tied behind. Since the warm spring weather has removed every trace of the late severe winter and our thoroughfares have again become fit for pedestrians Broadway and Fifth avenue are constantly dotted with those exquisite cloaks, and the ends of the sashes flutter in the April breeze like flags and streamers on the shipping on a national festival. Our beautiful metropolitan garden, the Park, is also beginning to bloom again with those human exotics which are carefully preserved during the winter in the parlor, ballroom or opera, and toilets of more hues than Joseph's coat ornament the mall, terrace and drives. When the concerts commence there and Dodworth's band calls together the immense Saturday afternoon host to the Park we may expect even a greater variety and beauty in ladies' costumes.

Our lively Paris fashion correspondent has something to say this week about fashionable Lenten concerts, which are all the rage over there. As nearly all our concert managers have succumbed to the depressing influence of the times, they have now a good opportunity to retrieve their losses and achieve fresh triumphs. Let us send over a few of our American concert artists to the French capital, and the Salle Herz and Salle Erard will resound with applause as enthusiastic and sincere as that which greeted them on all occasions at Steinway Hall. Pauline Lucca, the wonderful sprite of the opera, had a novel presentation made to her on the occasion of her return to Berlin. At the close of one of the acts a huge bouquet, which seemed like a small conservatory, with lace and satin, however, instead of glass to shield it, was handed to her. Its dimensions may be estimated from the fact that she is going to have a complete toilet made out of the satin fastening and fringes. Speaking of bouquets, would it not be well for the admirers of some of our artists in the theatre and concert hall to vary occasionally the floral tributes they cast on the stage? A basket of natural flowers will not stand many presentations, and artificial ones might be detected. The first performance of "Hamlet," Ambrose Thomas' opera, congregated together an audience of beauty, mourning and diamonds to sit in judgment on Christine Nilsson's Ophelia. The verdict was one of the most unbounded approval, and the recent death of the old King of Bavaria, for whom the aristocratic ladies present were in mourning, was forgotten in their sympathy for the fair-haired Ophelia. When the Lenten season is over we may look out for another return to the *fêtes* and parties which usher in the penitential season.

OUR NEW STATE CONSTITUTION.—A bill has been ordered to a third reading in the Assembly providing for the submission of our new State constitution to the people next November in three separate parts:—First, the part providing universal negro suffrage; second, the part relating to reforms in our State judiciary system, and, thirdly, all the rest of the new document. The Senate will probably insist on the separation only of negro suffrage from the rest of the instrument, as proposed by the convention, and the Assembly may refuse to agree to this; in which case, we presume, the submission of the new constitution to the people will be postponed till next year. Reconstruction, it thus appears, drags as heavily in New York as in Alabama; but for all that we are assured by Greeley that under "Old Ben Wade" we shall have the millennium.

A Bonaparte for the Papacy.

Prince Lucien Bonaparte, a grandson of Napoleon, one of the brothers of the great Napoleon, who preached the sermon at St. Peter's in Rome on receiving the title of cardinal, has been named St. Prudentienno. A saint among the Bonapartes is not an every-day occurrence, although the present head of the family is known as the eldest son of the Church, whose filial affection to the Holy Father has been proved in the most substantial forms. The Church, then, has reason to be proud of St. Prudentienno, and may be expected, politically, to turn his elevation to a good account. A London paper says that there is on foot a deeply laid scheme for the elevation of this new cardinal in the next election to the Papacy. It is supposed that this prince of the house of the Bonapartes may, as a Roman prelate, succeed to the pontificate on the death of Pío Nono, which the prophets will hold, in spite of his good health, to be nearly approaching. The programme surmised is that, with a cousin of the Emperor of the French at the head of Mother Church, the pair of them will play into each other's hands for the abolition of the temporal power, and so aid in settling the complicated question of Italian unity to the glory of France, and, under her protection, to the security of the Church.

Assuming, however, that there is a good foundation for this report of a scheme for the elevation of Cardinal Bonaparte to the chair of St. Peter, we think it more likely that it emanates from the Church and the Empress Eugénie than from Louis Napoleon, and that the object in view is not the abolition but the maintenance of the Pope's temporal power. Considering the inflexible position maintained by the present Holy Father on this subject—against all approaches, all threats and every combination from every quarter—it is hardly possible that he will become a consenting party to the gift of a cardinal's red hat even to a Bonaparte and then pronounce him St. Prudentienno without a distinct understanding and pledge upon this question of the temporal rights of the Holy See.

But the settlement of this controversy, after all, depends less upon the succession in the Vatican than upon the succession in the Tuileries. Upon the life of that one man, Louis Napoleon, hang not only the destinies of France, but the destinies of the Pope and Italy, and continental Europe and Asia Minor, and Egypt and the great Eastern question. Such is the frail thread upon which the present peace of Europe is suspended. Nor is it certain that "the empire is peace" while Louis Napoleon holds the helm, if we may judge from his formidable preparations for war. All speculations and all contrivances, therefore, as to the Papal succession, are vain and profitless, in view of that tremendous continental convulsion for which all the great Powers are arming; for against this impending revolutionary shaking up even a Bonaparte at the head of the Church would be powerless.

THE ARKANSAS RECONSTRUCTED LEGISLATURE.

It appears from a St. Louis despatch of yesterday that the radicals have elected their State ticket in Arkansas by thirty thousand majority; that they have the reconstructed Legislature, both houses, in their hands and duly organized, and that they had resolved next day to proceed to the ratification of the constitutional amendment known as article fourteen. At the same time it still appears probable that the ratification of the new State constitution by the people has failed, because the voters in the election, including both sides, were not equal to the whole number of voters registered. Should this turn out to be so Arkansas, reconstructed, will be likely to give as much trouble to Congress as Alabama. At all events we think it would be well for Miss Lucy Stone and Mrs. Antoinette Brown to look after the case of Arkansas, because her new constitution gives not only to Sambo but to Dinah and "old missus" and "young missus" the precious hour of the ballot box. Reconstruction upon the broad platform of negroes' rights and women's rights surely ought not to fail for want of a little active lobby work at Washington.

NEWS ITEMS.

Navigation on the Upper Mississippi is now open. The St. Paul steamboat Phil Sheridan passed through Lake Pepin on Friday night. Navigation on Lake Erie is under full head. The steamer Island Queen arrived at Sandusky on Friday from Detroit and reports that there is very little ice in Lake Erie. The schooner Royal Oak, from Canada, with a cargo of wheat, arrived at Oswego on Friday afternoon, the first arrival of the season. Several other vessels with wheat are on the lake, bound for that port.

The train from Groton Junction for the village of Macon, Mass., ran off the track on Friday evening and fatally injured a child aged four years, daughter of Mr. Stuart, the agent of the place, and a West Groton, who was at play on the track near the curve at the time of the accident.

J. R. Whitaker, a messenger in the employ of the Merchants' Union Express Company, and W. S. G. Herbert were arrested in Chicago on Friday, charged with robbing the Merchants' Union Express Company of \$20,000. All but about \$3,000 of the money was found in their possession.

The United States steamship Contocook, Admiral Hord's new flagship, has arrived at Fortress Monroe. The Supreme Court of Mississippi, which was recently reorganized by General Gillen, meets in Jackson to-morrow.

In the Mississippi Convention yesterday the Judiciary report passed to a third reading without material change.

The car works of the Chicago City Railroad were destroyed by fire on Friday night. The loss, including the building and stock, is about \$10,000. The property was fully insured. Two dwelling houses adjoining were damaged to the extent of \$3,000. They were insured.

A fire in Amber, Ill., on Thursday morning destroyed W. Murtine's liquor store and two adjoining buildings. Loss about \$12,000. Insured.

A fire last night in building Nos. 249 and 251 South Water street, Chicago, which were occupied by Theron Merritt, hardware, and Cyrus & Hyde, commission merchants, damaged the building and stocks to the extent of \$40,000. It was insured.

The fall factory of Mann Bros., at Two Cross Rivers, Wis., was burned on last Wednesday night. The loss was \$30,000.

Professor William Smythe, of Bowdoin College, the distinguished mathematical scholar, died suddenly at his residence in Brunswick, Me., yesterday afternoon.

FRIEDTUF, ACCIDENT IN CENTRAL PARK.—Between four and five o'clock yesterday afternoon, as Mr. Henry F. Townsend, accompanied by his wife, was entering the Park, at the Fifth avenue entrance, with his team, from some cause at present unknown the horses suddenly became frightened and dashed off at full speed. Mr. Townsend, it seems, was unable to keep them in the road, and they ran against a tree, shattering the carriage into pieces. Mr. Townsend was thrown out with his head, and was very seriously injured, and was picked up insensible. The police conveyed him to the St. Luke's Hospital, where up to a late hour last night he still remained unconscious. Mrs. Townsend was also thrown out and very seriously, if not fatally injured. When taken to the hospital it was found her arm was broken. The attending physician is of the opinion that Mr. Townsend's skull is fractured, and that the injury will prove fatal. There is some hope of Mrs. Townsend's recovery. Mr. Townsend is a lawyer, and resides at 292 Madison avenue.